



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
3000 MARINE CORPS PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20350-3000

5720
ARSF-F
September 19, 2013

SENT VIA EMAIL TO: 6500-17895808@REQUESTS.MUCKROCK.COM

MR TOM NASH
MUCKROCK NEWS
DEPT MR 6500
PO BOX 55819
BOSTON MA 02205-5819

Dear Mr. Nash:

SUBJECT: YOUR FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA) REQUEST, FILE
NUMBER USMC-HQ 2013F040967

This acknowledges receipt of your August 15, 2013, FOIA request seeking copies of contracts and any final reports between SAIC and the Marine Corps during the past 5 years. Your request was received on August 16, 2013, and has been assigned file number **USMC-HQ 2013F040967**.

Please be advised that a FOIA request must meet certain criteria before it may be considered "perfected." One criterion is that it must reasonably describe the records being sought.

Before we can begin processing your request, we need additional information to enable us to begin a search. SAIC uses more than 250 DUNS numbers to conduct business with the federal government. Please provide more detail about the specific items you are looking for, e.g., contract number(s), item(s) contracted, the end result of a contract, etc. At the moment, your request is simply too broad; please be more specific and narrow its scope. We will be glad to assist you in this if you wish.

You also requested a waiver of all fees. Before making a decision, we must first determine whether your request meets the Department of Defense (DoD) requirements for fee waivers, taking into consideration the following factors:

1. Does the record specifically concern identifiable operations or activities of the Government?
2. If so, is disclosure likely to contribute to public understanding of these operations and activities? Are the releasable contents of the record(s) meaningfully informative in relation to the subject of the request? For example, is this information of wide public interest and will your disclosure be unique in enhancing public knowledge?

3. Is the focus on contributing to public understanding rather than the requester's own understanding or that of a narrow segment of interested persons?
4. Will any likely contribution to public understanding be significant?

Requests for fee waivers should address these requirements in sufficient detail for us to make an informed decision, as each request is considered on its own merits. In particular, you should describe how the records you seek will make a significant contribution to the public's understanding of the Marine Corps mission and operations.

We have categorized you as an "other requester" for the purpose of assessing FOIA processing fees, as you do not meet the definition of "news media". For instance, it does not appear that any editorial analysis or skills will be applied to publication of these records. You are entitled to two hours of search time and 100 pages of duplication free of charge but would be responsible for the payment of any fees beyond that. Fees are currently assessed at \$20.00 per hour for clerical search, \$44.00 per hour for professional search, and \$.15 per page for photocopy duplication. You asked that we inform you of the total charges in advance, and we will be glad to do that once the scope of your request is narrowed in a manner that allows us to formulate a search that can reasonably be expected to identify responsive records.

In light of the foregoing, you may consider this an adverse determination that may be appealed to the Judge Advocate General of the Navy (Code 14), 1322 Patterson Avenue SE, Suite 3000, Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5066. Your appeal must be postmarked within 60 calendar days from the date of this letter and should include a copy of your initial request, a copy of this correspondence and a statement as to why you believe your appeal should be granted. I recommend that your appeal letter and its envelope both bear the notation, "Freedom of Information Act Appeal".

We will hold your request in abeyance for 30 days pending receipt of information allowing us to deem it 'perfected'. I am the official responsible for this determination. Questions concerning this action should be directed to Ms. Barbara Gonzalez at (571) 256-8636 or (703) 614-4008, or via email to smb.hqmc.foia@usmc.mil or fax at (703) 614-6287. Please reference the file number in the subject line above.

Sincerely,



S. A. HUGHES
Head, FOIA/PA Section